and tractors is being done. Further, modern equipments have been provided to the security forces to keep a close vigil over the area.

Sabotage in North-East Region

5560. PROF.M.SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a lot of reports of sabotage is reported in the entire North-Eastern Region;

(b) what steps Government are taking to curb insurgency in the region;

(c) whether Government are thinking of extending unilateral ceasefire in the region to find an amicable solution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Except for a few incidents by suspected ULFA activists in Assam before the Republic Day, there are no recent reports of sabotage in the North Eastern States.

(b) Steps taken by the Government to combat militancy in the North East include, *inter alia*, deployment of Central Para Military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence between the security forces; modernisation/upgradation of State Police forces; reimbursement of security related expenditure; sanction of Special Central Assistance to the State Governments; declaration of the most seriously affected areas as 'disturbed areas' and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Facilities for prisoners in Tihar

5561. PROF.M.SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities provided to the various categories of prisoners in accordance with the Jail manual; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some accused are provided or enjoying the facilities of colour TV, fridge and newspapers in Tihar Jail of Delhi?